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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2016-2017)

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

FORTY FIRST REPORT

REVIEW OF PENDING ASSURANCES PERTAINING TO THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

(*Presented to Lok Sabha on* 15 *December,* 2016)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

***December*, 2016/*Agrahayana,* 1938 (*Saka*)**

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2016-2017)

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri E. Ahamed
4. Shri Anto Antony
5. Shri Tariq Anwar
6. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
7. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadiya
8. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
9. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
10. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
11. Shri C. R. Patil
12. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
13. Shri Taslimuddin
14. Shri K.C. Venugopal
15. Shri S.R. Vijaya Kumar

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri J.M. Baisakh — *Director*
3. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

* The Committee has been re-constituted *w.e.f.* 01 September, 2016 *vide* Para No. 4075 of Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II, dated 05 September, 2016.

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4. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

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* The Committee has been re-constituted *w.e.f.* 01 September, 2015 *vide* Para No. 2348 of Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II, dated 31 August, 2015.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2016-17), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Forty-first Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2015-16) at their sitting held on 19 November, 2015 took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy regarding pending Assurances from the 8th Session of 15th Lok Sabha to the 4th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha.

3. At their sitting held on 14 December, 2016 the Committee (2016-17) considered and adopted their Forty-first Report.

4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of this Report.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations and Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;
14 *December*, 2016
23 *Agrahayana*, 1938 *(Saka)*

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK",
Chairperson,
Committee on Government Assurances.

REPORT

I. Introductory

The Committee on Government Assurances scrutinize the Assurances, promises, undertakings etc., given by the Ministers from time to time on the floor of the House and report the extent to which such Assurances, promises, undertakings have been implemented. Once an Assurance has been given on the floor of the House, the same is required to be implemented within a period of three months. The Ministries/Departments of Government of India are under obligation to seek extension of time required beyond the prescribed period for fulfilment of the Assurance. Where a Ministry/Department are unable to implement an Assurance, that Ministry/Department are bound to request the Committee for dropping it. The Committee consider such requests and approve dropping, in case, they are convinced that grounds cited are justified. The Committee also examine whether the implementation of Assurances has taken place within the Minimum time necessary for the purpose and the extent to which the Assurances have been implemented.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2009-10) took a policy decision to call the representatives of the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner, to review the pending Assurances, examine the reasons for pendency and analyze operation of the system prescribed in the Ministries/Departments for dealing with Assurances. The Committee also decided to consider the quality of Assurances implemented by the Government.

3. The Committee on Government Assurances (2014-15) decided to follow the well established and time tested procedure of calling the representatives of the Ministries/Departments of Government of India, in a phased manner and review the pending Assurances. The Committee took a step further and decided to call the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also as all the Assurances are implemented through them.

4. In pursuance of the *ibid* decision, the Committee on Government Assurances (2015-16) called the representatives of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and examined the following 16

pending Assurances (Appendices-I to XVI) pertaining to the Ministry at their sitting held on 19 November 2015:—

Sl.No.	SQ/USQ No. Dated	Subject
1.	USQ No. 2165 dated 12.08.2011	Wind Energy project in Kerala (Appendix-I)
2.	USQ No. 2921 dated 30.03.2012	Offshore Wind Power (Appendix-II)
3.	USQ No. 3867 dated 27.04.2012	Geo-Thermal Energy (Appendix-III)
4.	USQ No. 434 dated 23.11.2012	Development of Bio-Fuels (Appendix-IV)
5.	USQ No. 2414 dated 07.12.2012	National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee (Appendix-V)
6.	USQ No. 3052 dated 15.03.2013	National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee (Appendix-VI)
7.	USQ No. 4261 dated 22.03.2013	Bio-Energy Mission (Appendix-VII)
8.	USQ No. 2698 dated 07.02.2014	Solar Thermal Power (Appendix-VIII)
9.	USQ No. 763 dated 27.11.2014	National Wind Energy Mission (Appendix-IX)
10.	USQ No. 2005 dated 04.12.2014	Promotion of Rooftop Solar System (Appendix-X)
11.	USQ No. 3202 dated 11.12.2014	Production of Bio-Diesel (Appendix-XI)
12.	USQ No. 482 dated 26.02.2015	Offshore Wind Energy (Appendix-XII)
13.	USQ No. 1631 dated 05.03.2015	Renewable Energy Projects (Appendix-XIII)
14.*	USQ No. 1762 dated 05.03.2015	Solar Power Storage Technology (Appendix-XIV)
15.	USQ No. 1778 dated 05.03.2015	Solar Power Project (Appendix-XV)
16.	USQ No. 3759 dated 19.03.2015	Hydrogen Fuel Cells (Appendix-XVI)

* Fully implemented on 07.12.2016.

5. The Extracts from Manual of Practice and Procedure in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs laying guidelines on the definition of an Assurance, the time limit for its fulfilment, dropping/deletion and extension, the procedure for fulfilment etc., besides maintenance of Register of Assurances and periodical reviews to minimize delays in implementation of the Assurances are reproduced at Appendix-XVII.

6. During oral evidence, the attention of the representatives of the Ministry was primarily drawn to the abysmal delay in the fulfilment of the 16 Assurances. The Committee also enquired about the system in place in the Ministry for reivewing the pending Assurances, compliance of the provisions of the Manual of Practice and Procedure in the Government of India and coordination with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in this regard.

7. The Secretary, MNRE stated that they have categorized the 16 Assurances into 'A', 'B' and 'C' categories. 'A' meant those Assurances which have been implemented but their Implementation Reports were yet to be laid on the Table of the House. 'B' category meant those Assurances which had been vigorously pursued to bring them into 'A' category. 'C' category meant the Assurances on which no action had been taken as yet and were in the stage of guidance only. He also stated that weekly review meetings are being held in the Ministry in which all categories of Assurances are reviewed. However, he conceded that the Ministry had not been able to conduct these review meetings at regular intervals. It was stated that in the instant case, a comprehensive review meetings was held on 18 November, 2015 and no meeting could be held between April, 2014 and November, 2015. The Secretary assured the Committee that it would be the endeavour of the Ministry to follow up the implementation of Assurance with an institutional framework.

8. Subsequently, the Committee were informed that the seven Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 1,2,4,5,6,11 and 12 have since been implemented and their Implementation Reports laid in the Lok Sabha on 09.12.2015.

Observations/Recommendations

9. The Committee note that nine Assurances given by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy during the period from the 8th Session of the 15th Lok Sabha to the 4th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha are pending for implementation despite a lapse of time ranging from more than one year to more than 4 years. Seven Assurances of the same period could be implemented but with delays ranging from more than 9 months to more than 4 years. The inordinate delay in fulfilment of the Assurances clearly indicates lack of adequate follow up action and absence of periodical review of the status of Assurances. In fact, the Secretary in evidence conceded this point. Since the utility and relevance of an Assurance are lost due to inordinate delay in its fulfilment, the Committee recommend that the existing mechanism/system in the Ministry should be streamlined with mandatory regular reviews so as to avoid undue delay in fulfilment of Assurances. The Committee further desire that the Ministry adopt a proactive approach and scale up the level of coordination with other Ministries/Departments concerned including the

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for early/timely implementation of all the pending and future Assurances.

II. Review of Pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

10. In the succeeding paragraphs, the Committee deal with some of the important pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

A. Geo-Thermal Energy

11. In reply to USQ No. 3867 dated 27.04.2012 regarding 'Geo-Thermal Energy' (Annexure-II), it has been stated MNRE had prepared draft policy and guidelines to facilitate preparation and implementation of an action plan to set up projects for utilisation of geo-thermal energy in the country.

12. The Ministry in their Status Note dated 18.11.2015 stated as follows:

"The proposal is under examination of the Government and a decision in the matter is likely to take some time."

13. During evidence, the Secretary, MNRE apprised the Committee that the draft policy as formulated was put on the website on which several suggestions were received. He stated that the draft policy would be finalized by the extended time *i.e.* 31 January, 2016.

14. The Committee desired to know whether suggestions of the State Governments were obtained on the issue. The Secretary submitted that matter was discussed in the Power Ministers conference. Since the policy is meant for the whole country, the Committee pointed out the need for seeking suggestions of the States. The Secretary assured that they would convene meeting with the States in the form of work stages and discuss the matter.

Observations/Recommendations

15. The Committee note with concern that an important Assurance pertaining to preparation of policy and guidelines to facilitate preparation and implementation of an action plan to set up projects for utilisation of geo-thermal energy in the country has been pending for more than four years. In fact, during these four years, the Ministry have not taken any concrete action for conceptualizing and finalizing the intended policy. The Ministry sought extension upto January, 2016 and the Secretary in evidence categorically assured the Committee to come out with the policy by that time. However, to the dismay of the Committee, the Assurance is still pending implementation. Considering the difficulties being faced in meeting the exploding demand for energy in the country and the crucial role it plays in the nation's development, the Ministry need to explore and tap on priority all sources of energy including geo-thermal energy which the country has an estimated potential for about 10,000 MW but yet to be exploited. The Committee would like the Ministry to realise the importance of this energy and take earnest proactive steps to expeditiously finalise by involving all the stake holders and seeking suggestions from the States the requisite policy and guidelines to facilitate

preparation and implementation of an action plan to set up projects for utilisation of geo-thermal energy in the country and fulfil the Assurance.

B. Bio-Energy Mission

16. In reply to USQ No. 4261, dated 22-03-2013 regarding 'Bio-Energy Mission' (Annexure-VII), it was stated that the Government then did not propose to launch National Bio Energy Mission. However, efforts had been initiated to carry out studies required for formulation of National Bio-Energy Mission to promote sustainable generation of energy from various agricultural residues, agro-industrial wastes including raising dedicated energy plantations on suitable waste/degraded/ marginal lands in the country.

17. In this regard, the Secretary, MNRE stated in evidence that UNDP in its study had informed the Ministry that a resource mapping for 15,000 MW would be conducted and it had stated all the details. However, the Ministry sought extension of time till 20 February, 2016 in order to collate the studies and take a final view. He added that much progress had been made during the period 2013—2015 and there had been numerous scientific studies in this regard. The Ministry would like to analyze all those studies and decide what needs to be done.

Observations/Recommendations

18. Though the Ministry were non- committal to launching of National Bio-Energy Mission, it was replied in the House that efforts were on to carry out studies required for formulation of the Energy Mission. But regrettably, the studies reportedly conducted so far are yet to be analyzed and put together and the initiative of the Government remained on paper only. The country badly needs a bio-energy mission towards achieving energy security and for launching this mission, the Ministry need to carry out effective studies on sutainable generation of energy from various agriculture residues, agro-industrial wastes including raising dedicated energy plantations on suitable waste/degraded/marginal lands in the country. Such a system of energy generation will also prove to be an ideal way of preventing air pollution from indiscriminate burning of farm residues besides ensuring productive utilization of waste/degraded/marginal lands in the country. The Committee urge upon the Government to concretize the scientific studies in that direction and come out with a framework for Bio-Energy Mission.

C. National Wind Energy Mission

19. In reply to USQ No. 763 dated 27.11.2014 regarding 'National Wind Energy Mission' (Annexure-IX), it has been stated that the details of the National Wind Energy Mission including goals and time frame for its launch are under examination in the Government.

20. The Ministry in their Status Note dated 18.11.2015 stated that in view of new target of 60 GW of wind power to be installed by the year 2022, the Mission Document was under revision. The new mission document was to be placed for consideration of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) before requesting approval of the Cabinet.

21. During evidence, the Secretary, MNRE apprised the Committee that there were two Cabinet Notes-one was on offshore wind and another on wind machine. The Note on offshore wind has been cleared by the Cabinet. About wind machine, necessary papers have been circulated to EFC. The Ministry had sought extension upto December, 2015 to complete the process.

22. Pointing out that no achievement had been made in tapping wind energy in most of the States/UTs though some achievement had been registered in States like Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat, the Committee desired to know the reasons for the difference, The Secretary, elucidated that wind power potential was more in coastal areas. Satellite mapping had been done and the Ministry was in the process of super imposing wind and solar energies. The Ministry's endeavour is to identify the areas where hybridization of wind and solar energies could be done.

Observations/Recommendations

23. The Committee note that the Ministry have rightly realized the importance and need of wind energy and have taken initiatives to launch the National Wind Energy Mission. However, the Committee note with concern that the Ministry are yet to finalise the goals and timeframe for launching the Mission. The Committee are constrained to point out that tapping of wind energy in the country is heavily lopsided and concentrated in a few castal States like Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat which does not auger well for the maximum exploitation of wind energy in the country. The Ministry need to address this issue while finalizing the National Wind Energy Mission so that wind energy potential of each State is determined and tapped to the maximum extent possible at all the suitable areas of the country. Stressing the dire need for clean energy like wind energy which would be helpful in reducing air pollution and enhancing energy supply in the country, the Committee urge upon the Ministry to scale up their efforts to expedite the finalization of the Mission Document and take follow up action to obtain due approval of the Cabinet/EFC at the earliest and launch the National Wind Energy Mission without further delay and in the process fulfil the Assurance.

D. Renewable Energy Projects

24. In reply to USQ No. 1631 dated 05-03-2015 regarding Renewable Energy Projects (Annexure-XIII), it has been stated that NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited has informed that three solar thermal power projects in the State of Rajasthan under Batch-I of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, Phase-I are not completed. Extension of the commissioning date is under consideration by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

25. In their Status Report, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy stated as under:—

> "The representations of the solar thermal power developers for extension of the commissioning date are still under examination in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. Final decision on the same may take some more time."

26. During evidence, the representative of the Ministry submitted that solar thermal projects in Rajasthan and some other areas could not be completed within the prescribed time since solar thermal power is a new and complicated technology and its completion required time. To this, the Secretary, added that an Inter-Ministerial Committee in this regard was appointed. That Committee undertook field visit and suggested that those projects which were not completed should be given two years extension. The Minister, MNRE also took a meeting to review the situation and the Ministry had to take a decision whether to accept the report of the Expert Committee or not. The Committee have been informed that designated power developers also represented the case before the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC). The matter was stated to be subjudice.

Observations/Recommendations

27. The Committee note that the Ministry require more time to fulfil the Assurance given in reply to USQ No. 1631 dated 05.03.2015 regarding 'Renewable Energy Projects' citing that solar thermal power is a new technology and very complicated one with high production cost. The Committee feel that this aspect could have been taken into account while finalizing/approving the three solar thermal power projects in Rajasthan with the result that the developers of these projects have represented for extension of their commission date and have also moved to CERC in the absence of decision by the Government. Meanwhile an inter-Ministerial Expert Committee has recommended for giving a time extension of 2 years for those projects which are yet to be completed but the Ministry failed to take a timely decision in the matter thereby creating further hurdles in completing the projects. The Committee deprecate undue delay on the part of the Government in decision making process and urge them to take proactive steps to consider all the attended factors and expeditiously come up with a final decision on extending the commissioning date of the three solar thermal projects in Rajasthan and fulfil the Assurance.

E. Solar Power Projects

28. In reply to USQ No. 1778 dated 05.03.2015 regarding 'Solar Power Projects' (Annexure-XV), it has been stated that a new scheme to set up solar power projects through qualified unemployed or under employed youth is under preparation. The eligibility criteria for selection of these unemployed youth is under preparation. Further, it has been stated that the Government proposes to involve State Governments in this regard. However, the scheme is under finalization.

29. During oral evidence, the Secretary, MNRE submitted that the scheme was planned so that if those farmers and unemployed graduates in the country get some land, they can set up solar power plants. The Government would give subsidy upto Rs. 50 lakh per megawatt and they can sell power by forming a company like entity. This scheme would go to Cabinet. Thereafter, the Ministry would finalize it.

30. He further stated that by 2022 the target was to ramp up solar power capacity to 100 thousand MW. Out of these, 40 thousand MW would be from solar rooftop

system, 20 thousand MW from solar parks, 25 of which had been sectioned and 10 thousand MW from this farmers' scheme. And whatever solar energy capacity be created, that would be of land based.

Observations/Recommendations

31. The Committee note that the implementation of the Assurance given in reply to USQ No. 1778 dated 05.03.2015 regarding 'Solar Power Projects' is of paramount importance for augmenting energy generating capacity and empowering educated unemployed youths in the country. By implementing this Assurance, a new promising scheme with the above dual purpose will be launched which has the potential to be a game changer in the country's energy scenario and self employment sector. However, as a matter of concern, not much progress has been made in the finalization of this laudable scheme even though a period of more than 1 year has elapsed since the Assurance was given on the floor of the House. The Committee would like the Ministry to realize the importance of the scheme and step up their efforts and the level of coordination with all the stakeholders including States and finalise and launch the scheme without further delay so as to fulfil the Assurance and derive the maximum benefit from the Scheme.

F. Hydrogen Fuel Cells

32. In reply to USQ No. 3759 dated 19.03.2015 regarding 'Hydrogen Fuel Cells' (Annexure-XVI), it has been stated that Indian Oil Corporation Limited R&D Centre, Faridabad has developed a proposal for setting up a Centre of Excellence for Hydrogen Energy and Fuel Cells in the campus of the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) at Gwalphahari, Gurugram, Haryana.

33. During evidence, the Secretary, MNRE apprised the Committee that NISE is demanding 10 acres of land for the centre. The Ministry had identified it in a 6 acre campus. The governing body of NISE discussed the matter and informed that the land for BHEL was provided in the campus where NISE was located in Gurugram. Discussion was on whether the land could be provided in that campus. The Secretary added that after a decision is taken in this regard, the matter would go to Cabinet for land allotment and then the Assurance would be fulfilled.

34. The Committee desired to know whether the Ministry have studied the progress/achievements of various countries in the research and development of Hydrogen Energy and Fuel Cells and also the country's position in this regard. The representative of the Ministry submitted that the technologies of Hydrogen and Fuel Cells were mainly utilized in Europe, America and Japan. In these countries, hydrogen was used for running vehicles. But the main hindrances were stated to be filling of hydrogen in vehicles and to make it available.

35. He further apprised that Hydrogen Fuel and Cell technology was used for running cars in most of the areas and in some places for running buses. In this country, the Ministry had developed technology for utilizing it for running such vehicles as three wheelers to cars and buses. Some of such vehicles had also been exhibited at Pragati Maidan and Tata Motors was a company which had developed a bus run by fuel cell and very soon this bus would ply between Faridabad and Delhi.

Observations/Recommendations

36. The Committee appreciate that the Ministry have made considerable progress in the utilization of Hydrogen Fuel Cells which have been used for running such vehicles as three wheelers to cars and buses in the country unlike in other countries where these are used for running cars and buses. However, much research and development activities in this field are still required as the main hindrances in using Hydrogen Fuel Cells like how to fill hydrogen in vehicles and how to make it available are yet to be tackled. In this context, the Assurance given in reply to USQ No. 3759 dated 19.3.2015 regarding 'Hydrogen Fuel Cells' assumes great importance as it involves setting up of a Centre of Excellence for Hydrogen Energy and Fuel Cells. Though this centre is being proposed in the campus of the National Institute of Solar Energy at Gurgaon, Haryana by Indian Oil Corporation Limited R&D Centre, Faridabad, regrettably, no progress has been made in this direction even after more than 1 year of giving the Assurance due to uncertainties in land allotment, lack of coordination with BHEL which has also been allotted land in the same campus and failure of the Ministry to take a firm decision on time. The Committee desire that the Ministry should expedite negotiations with BHEL so as to ensure allotment of land for the aforesaid Centre of Excellence for Hydrogen Energy and Fuel Cells without further delay and the same could be set up at the earliest for the larger benefit of the country which in the process would also fulfil the Assurance.

III. Implementation Reports

37. As per the Statements of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Implementation Reports in respect of the Assurances given in reply to the following 07 SQs/USQs have since been laid on the Table of the House on 09.12.2015.

S. No. 1	USQ No. 2165 dated 12.08.2016 Regarding 'Wind Energy Projects in Kerala'
S. No. 2	USQ No. 2921 dated 30.03.2012 Regarding 'Offshore Wind Power'
S. No. 4	USQ No. 434 dated 23.11.2012 Regarding 'Development of Bio-Fuels'
S. No. 5	USQ No. 2414 dated 07.12.2012 Regarding 'National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee'
S. No. 6	USQ No. 3052 dated 15.03.2013 Regarding 'National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee'
S. No. 11	USQ No. 3202 dated 11.12.2014 Regarding 'Production of Bio-Diesel'
S. No. 12	USQ No. 482 dated 26.02.2015 Regarding 'Offshore wind Energy'

NEW DELHI;
14 *December*, 2016
23 *Agrahayana*, 1938 *(Saka)*

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK",
Chairperson,
Committee on Government Assurances.

APPENDIX I

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2165

ANSWERED ON 12.08.2011

Wind Energy Project in Kerala

2165. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government and the State Government of Kerala have entered in to an agreement for production of wind energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the installation place, estimated cost of the project and cost of electricity production per unit; and

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be completed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) As per information provided by the Agency for Non-conventional Energy and Rural Technology (ANERT), Kerala, the State Government of Kerala have entered into an MOU on 18.07.2011 with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for generation of 200 MW from wind energy in Kerala. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) is under preparation and all the potential areas in the State are being considered for the project.

(c) ANERT has reported that the DPR for the above project is likely to be prepared with 3 months. Besides, they have reported that 10 MW wind power projects are expected in the current financial year at Ramakkalmedu, Idukki district.

APPENDIX II

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2921

ANSWERED ON 30.03.2012

Offshore Wind Power

2921. SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON:
SHRI M. ANANDAN:
SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the feasibility of offshore wind power generation in the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has identified any locations in the country where offshore wind power generation plants can set up effectively and economically;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide incentives to entrepreneurs for taking up projects in this field; and

(f) if so, the details thereof including the progress made so far?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH):

(a) No Madam.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No Madam. However, the preliminary analysis of data available with some organizations like Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services including C-WET's studies suggests that there could be offshore wind energy potential in coastal area of Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. **The Ministry has constituted a Technical Committee to analyze the offshore wind data available with various agencies in order to identify the offshore wind areas and their potential.** However, this will need to be validated by setting up of offshore masts to measure 1-2 years wind speed data. Further, an analysis of seabeds would also be required to assess the kind of foundation needed for setting up offshore wind energy projects.

(e) There is no proposal at this stage.

(f) Question does not arise.

APPENDIX III

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3867
ANSWERED ON 27.04.2012

Geo-Thermal Energy

†3867. SHRI KAPIL MUNI KARWARIYA:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power generated from geo-thermal energy in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any concrete policy or action plan to increase power generation from such geo-thermal energy and utilize them in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of achievements made by the Government in this regard during the last three years and the current year.

(d) whether the Government has sought assistance from the developed countries for the development of geo-thermal energy in the country, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) No Geo-Thermal Energy Power plant has been set up in the country so far.

(b) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has prepared draft policy and guidelines to facilitate preparation and implementation of an action plan to set up projects for utilization of geo-thermal energy in the country.

(c) During the last three years, the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and West Bengal have taken steps to harness geo-thermal energy in their respective States. Geo-thermal resource assessment studies have also been undertaken by MNRE at various potential sites through National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad.

(d) and (e) No specific assistance has been sought from any particular country. However India has Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) on co-operation in Renewable Energy including Geothermal Energy with several countries.

APPENDIX IV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 434
ANSWERED ON 23.11.2012

Development of Bio-Fuels

†434. SHRI BHISMA SHANKER *ALIAS* KUSHAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national policy on bio-fuels envisages promotion and development of bio-fuels;

(b) if so, the salient features of the said policy;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to promote bio-fuels;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any high level national bio-fuel coordination committee has been constituted to coordinate, implement and monitor bio-fuel programmes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The salient features of the National Policy on Bio-fuels are given below:

* Bio-diesel production from non-edible oil seeds grown on waste and degraded forest and non-forest lands.
* An indicative target of 20% blending of bio-ethanol and bio-diesel with petrol and diesel, respectively, by 2017.
* Minimum Support Price for non-edible oil seeds with provision for periodic revision to be announced.
* Determination of Minimum Purchase Price for purchase of bio-ethanol and bio-diesel.
* Major thrust on research, development and demonstration of bio-fuels, including Second Generation Bio-fuels.

(c) and (d) The Government is implementing & scheme of 5% blending of bio-ethanol with petrol. In addition, an ad-hoc ex-factory price of Rs. 27/- per litre for procurement of ethanol by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMC) was approved in August, 2010. The procurement of ethanol and supply of Ethanol Blended Petrol

by OMCs in progress since 01.09.2010. The bio-diesel industry is still at a nascent stage of development and its blending with High Speed Diesel has not been started so far.

(e) and (f) A high Level National Bio-fuel Coordination Committee, headed by the Prime Minister, has been constituted for coordination and policy guidance/ review on different aspects of bio-fuels development, promotion and utilization. Other members of the Committee are Ministers of Agriculture, New and Renewable Energy, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Rural Development, Science & Technology and Environment & Forests besides Deputy Chairman Planning Commission. Secretary, in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is the Convener.

APPENDIX V

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2414
ANSWERED ON 07.12.2012

National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee

2414. DR. SANJAY SINH:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a National Bio-fuel Coordination Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives of the same;

(c) the reaction of the Government on the functioning of the said Committee; and

(d) the progress made in the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme with the help of the said Committee?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH):

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) The National Bio-fuel Coordination Committee (NBCC), has been constituted for providing high-level co-ordination and policy guidance/review on different aspects of biofuel development.

(d) About 36.19 crore litres of bio-ethanol was procured for Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme during the season October, 2010 to September, 2011, whereas about 26 crorelitres of ethanol has been supplied for the current season upto August, 15, 2012.

APPENDIX VI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3052
ANSWERED ON 15.03.2013

National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee

3052. DR. SANJAY SINH:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI RATAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a National Bio-fuel Coordination Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives of the same;

(c) whether the meeting of this Committee is being held as per rules; and

(d) if so, the details of the suggestions made by the said Committee along with success achieved by the Government so far after the execution of the aforesaid suggestions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH):

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The National Bio-fuel Coordination Committee (NBCC) headed by the Prime Minister has been constituted for providing High-level co-ordination and policy guidance/review on different aspects of bio-fuel development.

(c) and (d) No meeting of the National Bio-fuel Coordination Committee has been held so far.

APPENDIX VII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4261
ANSWERED ON 22.03.2013

Bio-Energy Mission

4261. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHAJSHI LAKSHMI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch National Bio Energy Mission in the country to push sustainable development of renewable energy sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to use agricultural or forest land for plantation for the said purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH):

(a) and (b), (c) and (d) No, Madam. However, efforts have been initiated to carry out studies required for formulation of National Bio Energy Mission to promote sustainable generation of energy from various agricultural residues, agro-industrial wastes including raising dedicated energy plantations on suitable waste/degraded/ marginal lands in the country.

APPENDIX VIII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2698
ANSWERED ON 07.02.2014

Solar Thermal Power

2698. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total capacity of solar thermal power projects allocated under batch-I of phase-I of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM);

(b) whether certain irregularities have been noticed in the said allocation;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The total capacity of solar thermal power projects allocated under batch-I of phase-I of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) is 470 MW.

(b) and (c) and (d) The guidelines for allocation of Grid Connected Solar Thermal Projects under Batch-I, Phase-I of JNNSM stipulate allocation of minimum and maximum capacity of the Solar Thermal Project to be 5 & 100 MW respectively. The total capacity to be allocated to a Company including its Parent, Affiliate or Ultimate Parent-or any Group Company was limited to 100 MW.

However, an article appeared in the magazine "Down to Earth"in its issue dated 1-15 Feb. 2012 in which allegations were made about violation of the above guidelines. In this article, it was alleged that a private Company got 9 projects aggregating to 235 MW allotted in violation of these guidelines.

The Government had appointed an inter-Ministerial Committee comprising of representatives from the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Ministry of Power and Ministry of Corporate Affairs to inquire into the above allegations.

The Committee has submitted its report and based on the recommendations of the Committee, suitable provisions have been made in subsequent tender.

APPENDIX IX

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 763

ANSWERED ON 27.11.2014

National Wind Energy Mission

763. SHRI PREM DAS RAI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the potential and installed capacity for wind energy in the country, including the North-Eastern Region, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to launch the National Wind Energy Mission for promotion of wind energy;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the salient goals of the proposed mission and the expected time of launch;

(d) the details of steps proposed to be taken by the Government to operationalise the goals enumerated therein in a time bound manner; and

(e) the details of other steps taken by the Government in this regard particularly measures to address the key challenges in harnessing wind energy, strengthen grid infrastructure and to address financing issues for wind power including incentives provided for the purpose particularly in North-Eastern Region?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) As per the meso-scale Wind Atlas, the country has a wind power potential of 1,02,788 MW at 80 m. This is to be validated through field measurements. So far, 22,167 MW wind capacity has been installed. The State-wise break-up is given at Annexure. Wind installation in some States including North-Eastern Region have not taken place as the field measurements in those States are not yet completed and States have not announced policies for private sector investment.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) The details of the National Wind Energy Mission including goals and time frame for its launch are under examination in the Government.

(d) The Mission will take up various activities in wind power development in a focused and structured manner including extensive wind resource assessment,

grid-integration, strengthening manufacturing base, fiscal and promotional incentives, offshore wind power development, re-powering of old turbines, and land availability etc.

(e) The Government facilitates wind power development by providing fiscal and promotional incentives, conducive policy environment and technical support through the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE, erstwhile C-WET).

The Generation Based Incentive (GBI) and Accelerated Depreciation (AD) benefits have been reinstated. In North-Eastern Region, wind resource assessment activities are going on. The States have to announce the policies for attracting private sector investment.

APPENDIX X

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2005

ANSWERED ON 04.12.2014

Promotion of Rooftop Solar System

2005. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote rooftop solar system across the country;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has sought loan from German Bank in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether hedging against Rupee fluctuation makes the loan expensive for domestic borrowers;

(e) if so, whether his Ministry has sought sovereign guarantee of Ministry of Finance to keep the interest rate down and avail the loan amount from German Bank;

(f) if so, the response of the Government thereto; and

(g) the other steps being taken by the Government to arrange more funds from foreign agencies in order to spur growth in the cash starved renewable energy sector?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Madam. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing 'Grid Connected Rooftop and Small Solar Power Plants Programme' for installation of rooftop solar systems from 1 kWp to 500 kWp capacity in residential, commercial, institutional and industrial buildings. The programme has a provision of Central Financial Assistance of Rs. 24 per watt capacity of the system.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. The Ministry has sought loan of one billion Euro(E) from German Bank, Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau (KfW) to provide loans to the end users for installations of grid-interactive rooftop solar plants.

(d) Yes, Madam.

(e) and (f) Yes, Madam. Ministry has sent proposal to Department of Economic Affairs for consideration. They have asked for in principle approval of Planning Commission and Internal Finance for which action has been initiated.

(g) The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA), a Public Sector Undertaking of the Ministry has been raising funds from the foreign agencies *i.e.,* Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau (KfW) Germany, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), US Exim Bank, European Investment Bank, French Agency for Development (AFD) France etc.

The Ministry is organizing 'RE-INVEST', a 'Renewable Energy Global Investment Promotion Meet and Expo' during 15—17th February, 2015 in New Delhi to attract Investments from foreign agencies to spur growth in renewable energy sector.

APPENDIX XI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3202

ANSWERED ON 11.12.2014

Production of Bio-Diesel

3202. SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major bulk of bio-diesel produced in the country is being exported;

(b) if so, details thereof and whether there are any policy stipulations for using bio-diesel by domestic bulk consumers;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government is planning for any policy change in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL) : (a), (b) and (c) Yes, Madam. No bio-diesel has been procured by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) during the last three years, whereas about 92,000 tonnes bio-diesel has been exported during the same period. The National Policy on Biofuels stipulates that the responsibility of storage, distribution and marketing of biofuels would rest with Oil Marketing Companies. The Biofuel Policy also stipulates that export of biofuels would only be permitted after meeting the domestic requirements. Further, Motor spirit and High Speed Diesel Control Order also stipulates that no person other than dealer or the Oil company shall engage in the business of selling these products.

(d) and (e) A proposal is under consideration to amend the provisions of National Policy on Biofuels and the Motor spirit and High Speed Diesel Control Order to facilitate sale of biodiesel by its manufacturers directly to the bulk consumers like Railways.

APPENDIX XII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 482

ANSWERED ON 26.02.2015

Offshore Wind Energy

482. SHRI C.S. PUTTA RAJU:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the fifth largest wind energy developer in the world and is looking to tap over 7,500 k.m. long coastline for development of offshore wind energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the implementation of offshore wind energy projects also depends upon firming up of the wind resource, oceanographic studies, environmental impact assessment and various clearances required for such projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. India with a wind power installed capacity of 22,598 MW (as of 31st January, 2015) is the fifth largest wind producer after China, USA, Germany and Spain.

The preliminary analysis of data available with some organizations like Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services including National Institute of Wind Energy studies suggests that there could be offshore wind energy potential in coastal area of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Maharashtra. Further, Scottish consultancy organization's preliminary study indicates a potential of 1 GW each at Kanyakumari and Rameshwaram. However, this requires validation by setting up of offshore mast to measure 2-3 years of wind speed data.

The Government is also working on Draft National Offshore Wind energy for the approval of Cabinet.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The major challenges in deployment of offshore wind power projects in India include limited data on resource characterization, unclear regulatory and policy framework, technical issues and weak infrastructure to support fabrication, installation, maintenance, interconnection and evacuation of electricity from these systems. The main clearances required for setting up offshore wind projects include those regarding environmental, security, aviation, oil exploration zones etc.

APPENDIX XIII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1631

ANSWERED ON 05.03.2015

Renewable Energy Projects

1631. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received, sanctioned and still pending for approval of the Government regarding setting up of renewable energy projects in various States/UTs including Jharkhand;

(b) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be approved;

(c) whether several of the renewable energy projects started by the Ministry three years back are still incomplete, in the country including Rajasthan;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the names of such projects and the time limit for their completion?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) AND (b) The proposals for setting up of renewable energy projects are received in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) for sanction of the eligible Central Financial Assistance (CFA) under various schemes and programmes. Such proposals are received on a regular basis and those found complete in all respects as per guidelines are approved for sanction of eligible CFA. This is done in a time bound manner and the process for such approvals is specified in the schemes.

State/UT-wise details of projects set up for renewable power capacity addition including in Jharkhand are given in Annexure-I.

(c), (d) and (e) NTPC: Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited has informed that three solar thermal power projects in the State of Rajasthan under Batch-I of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, Phase-I are not completed. The details of these projects are given in Annexure-II. Further, extension of the commissioning date is under consideration by MNRE.

ANNEXURE I

STATE/UT-WISE DETAILS OF PROJECTS SET UP FOR RENEWABLE POWER CAPACITY ADDITION

Bio-Power

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	Small Hydro Power	Wind Power	BM Power/ Cog en.	Waste to Energy	Solar Power	Total Capacity
							(in megawatt)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	221.03	924.65	380.75	50.66	235.86	1812.95
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	103.91				0.03	103.93
3.	Assam	34.11				0.00	34.11
4.	Bihar	70.70		43.42		0.00	114.12
5.	Chhattisgarh	52.00		264.90		7.60	324.50
6.	Goa	0.05				0.00	0.05
7.	Gujarat	16.60	3585.28	43.90		929.05	4574.83
8.	Haryana	71.50		61.30		12.80	145.60
9.	Himachal Pradesh	696.11				0.00	696.11
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	149.03				0.00	149.03
11.	Jharkhand	4.05				16.00	20.05
12.	Karnataka	1129.66	2567.35	623.28	1.00	77.00	4398.29
13.	Kerala	168.92	35.10			0.03	204.05
14.	Madhya Pradesh	86.16	606.30	26.00	3.90	378.58	1100.94
15.	Maharashtra	335.43	4371.35	1,001.40	12.72	322.90	6043.80
16.	Manipur	5.45				0.00	5.45
17.	Meghalaya	31.03				0.00	31.03
18.	Mizoram	36.47				0.00	36.47
19.	Nagaland	29.67				0.00	29.67
20.	Odisha	64.63		20.00		31.76	116.39
21.	Punjab	157.40		140.50	10.25	55.77	363.92
22.	Rajasthan	23.85	3095.15	109.30		851.50	4079.80
23.	Sikkim	52.11				0.00	52.11
24.	Tamil Nadu	123.05	7408.21	571.30	8.05	106.76	8217.37
25.	Telangana	0.00				8.00	
26.	Tripura	16.01				0.00	16.01
27.	Uttar Pradesh	25.10		776.50	5.00	39.71	846.31
28.	Uttarakhand	209.32		30.00		5.00	244.32
29.	West Bengal	98.40		26.00		7.21	131.61
30.	Andaman & Nicobar	5.25				5.10	10.35
31.	Chandigarh					2.00	2.00
32.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli					0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu					0.00	0.00
34.	Delhi				16.00	5.47	21.47
35.	Lakshwadeep					0.75	0.75
36.	Pondicherry					0.03	0.03
37.	Others		4.30	64.86		0.79	69.95
	Total (MW)	4016.98	22597.69	4183.41	107.58	3099.68	34005.34

ANNEXURE

DETAILS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS YET TO BE COMPLETED IN RAJASTHAN

Sl. No.	Developers	Capacity	Commissioning Date
1.	Corporate Ispat Alloys Co.	50 MW	9.3.2014
2.	KVK Energy Venture	100 MW	9.3.2014
3.	Divakar Solar Projects	100 MW	9.3.2014

APPENDIX XIV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1762

ANSWERED ON 05.03.2015

Solar Power Storage Technology

1762. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether new pilot projects have been started to develop solar power storage technology;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether special budgetary provisions have been made to give boost to renewable energy sector, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is committed to manufacturers at solar power plants and for this Government have decided to install 1000 MW solar power plants on surplus land roof space in defence installations with cells and modules made in India;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government is aware that it is very difficult to provide electricity to hilly areas; and

(g) if so, whether any solar power plants would be installed in the hilly Shivalik area of Ambala situated in Haryana?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Ministry has sanctioned a R&D Project-"1 MW solar thermal power plant with 16 hours thermal storage for continuous operation, India One"; by World Renewal Spiritual Trust, Mumbai at Mount Abu. The total project cost is Rs. 81 crores with MNRE share of Rs. 21.2 crores.

(c) Budgetary provision for the Ministry for the last year *i.e.* 2013-14 was Rs. 1738.68 crores. However, the same has been enhanced to Rs. 2519 crores in the year 2014-15.

(d) and (e) The Government of India has launched a scheme for setting up over 300 MW of Grid connected & Off grid Solar PV power projects by Defence establishments under M/o Defence and Para Military Forces under MHA with viability gap funding under Phase II/III of JNNSM during 2014-15 and onwards. The scheme aims to use the domestic manufactured equipments in order to boost indigenous production of solar cells and modules. Project under this scheme can be developed under either "Developer Mode" or EPC Mode".

(f) Yes, Madam.

(g) The Government of India has launched a Scheme for setting-up of 25 Solar Parks in the country which includes setting up of Solar Power Parks in hilly terrain area. Every State Government has been requested to identify suitable land for setting up the solar park.

However Haryana Government is yet to respond.

APPENDIX XV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1778

ANSWERED ON 05.03.2015

Solar Power Projects

1778. SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:
SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:
DR. HEENA VIJAY KUMAR GAVIT:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on a scheme to set up 20,000 MW solar power projects through qualified unemployed or under employed youth, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any criteria has been fixed for these unemployed youth to apply for the project, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to extend assistance to keep power tariff from solar plants set up under this scheme affordable for State utilities, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to involve State Governments in this regard, if so, the response of the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to ramp up solar power capacity to 100000-MW by 2021-2022?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Madam. A new scheme is under preparation.

(b) The eligibility criteria for selection is under preparation.

(c) Under the scheme, the State Electricity Commission is proposed to fix the tariff based upon the petition filed by the distribution companies.

(d) Yes, Madam. However, the scheme is under finalisation.

(e) The scale up plan to ramp up solar power capacity to 100000 MW by 2021-22 is under advance stage of preparation.

APPENDIX XVI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3759

ANSWERED ON 19.03.2015

Hydrogen Fuel Cells

3759. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research and development is being conducted to understand the usage of hydrogen fuel cells in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to set up hydrogen fuel research centres in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy under its broad based Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) programme has been supporting projects at academic institutions, research and development organizations and industry for development of hydrogen and fuel cells. A total twenty six RD&D projects on hydrogen and fuel cells are presently under implementation with the support of the Ministry.

(c) and (d) Indian Oil Corporation Limited R&D Centre, Faridabad has developed a proposal for setting up a Centre of Excellence for Hydrogen Energy and Fuel Cells in the campus of the National Institute of Solar Energy at Gwalpahari, Gurgaon, Haryana.

APPENDIX XVII

(*Vide* para 5 of the Report)

EXTRACTS FROM MANUAL OF PRACTICE & PROCEDURE IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, NEW DELHI

Definition.	**8.1** During the course of reply given to a question or a discussion, if a minister gives an undertaking which involves further action on the part of the Government in reporting back to the House, it is called an 'assurance'. Standard list of such expressions which normally constitute assurances and as approved by the Committees on Government Assurances of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, is given at *Annexure* 3. As assurances are required to be implemented within a specified time limit, care should be taken by all concerned while drafting replies to restict the use of these expressions only to the questions to restrict the use of these expression only to those occasions when it is clearly intended to give an assurance in these terms.
	8.2 When an assurance is given by a Minister or when the Presiding Officer directs the Government to furnish information to the House, it is extracted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from the relevant proceedings and communicated to the department concerned normally within 10 working days of the date on which it is given.
Deletion from the list of assurances.	**8.3.1** If the administrative department has any objection to treating such a statement as an assurance or finds that it would not be in the public interest to fulfil it, it may write to the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat direct with a copy to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs within a week of the receipt of such communication for getting it deleted from the list of assurances. Such action will require prior approval of the Minister.
	8.3.2 Departments should make request for dropping of assurances immediately on receipt of statement of assurances from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and only in rare cases where they are fully convinced that the assurances could not be implemented under any circumstances and there is no option left with them but to make a request for dropping. Such requests should have the approval of their Minister and this fact should be indicated in their communication containing the request. If such a request is made towards the end of the stipulated period of three months, then it should invariable be accompanied with a request for extension of time. The department should continue to seek extension of time till a decision of the Committee on

	Government Assurances is received by them. Copy of the above communications should be simultaneously endorsed to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
Time limit for fulfilling an assurance.	**8.4.1** An assurance given in either House is required to be fulfilled within a period of three months from the date of the assurance. This time limit has to be strictly observed.
Extension of time for fulfilling an assurance.	**8.4.2** If the department finds that it is not possible to fulfil the assurance within the stipulated period of three months or within the period of extension already granted, it may seek further extension of time direct from the respective Committee on Government Assurances under intimation to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs as soon as the need for such extension becomes apparent, indicating the reasons for delay and the probable additional time required. Such a communication should be issued with the approval of the Minister.
Register of assurances.	**8.5.1** The particulars of every assurance will be entered by the Parliament Unit of the department concerned in a register as at *Annexure* 4 after which the assurance will be passed on to the concerned section.
	8.5.2 Even ahead of ther receipt of communication from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, the section concerned should take prompt action to fulfil such assurances and keep a watch thereon in a register as at *Annexure* 5.
	8.5.3 The registers referred to in paras 8.5.1 and 8.5.2 will be maintained separately for the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha assurances, entries therein being made session wise.
Role of Section Officer and Branch.	**8.6.1** The Section Office incharge of the concerned section will: (a) scrutinise the registers once a week; (b) ensure that necessary follow-up action is taken without any delay whatsoever; (c) submit the registers to the branch officer every fortnight if the House concerned is in session and once a month otherwise, drawing his special attention to assurances which are not likely to be implemented within the period of three months; and (d) review of pending assurances should be undertaken periodically at the highest level in order to minimise the delay in implementing the assurances. **8.6.2** The branch officer will likewise keep his higher officer and Minister informed of the progress made in the implementation of assurances, drawing their special attention to the causes of delay.

Procedure for fulfilment of an assurance.	**8.7.1** Every effort should be made to fulfil the assurance within the prescribed period. In case only part of the information is available and collection of the remaining information would involve considerable time, an implementation report containing the available information should be supplied to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in part scrutinize of the assurance, within the prescribed time limit. However efforts should continue to be made for expeditious collection of the remaining information for complete implementation of the assurance at the earliest.
	8.7.2 Information to be supplied in partial or complete fulfilment of an assurance should be approved by the Minister concerned and 15 copies thereof (bilingual) in the prescribed proforma as at *Annexure* 6, together with its enclosures, alongwith one copy each in Hindi and English duly authenticated by the officer forwarding the implementation report, should be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. If, however, the information being furnished is in response to an assurance given in reply to a question etc., asked for by more than one member, an additional copy of the completed proforma (both in Hindi and English) should be furnished in respect of each additional member. A copy of this communication should be endorsed to the Parliament Unit for completing column 7 of its register.
	8.7.3 The implementation reports should be sent to the Ministry of the Parliamentary Affairs and not to the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat. No advance copies of the implementation reports are to be endorsed to the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat either.
Laying of the implementation report on the Table of the House.	**8.8** The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, after a scrutiny of the implementation report, will arrange to lay it on the Table of the House concerned. A copy of the statement, as laid on the Table, will be forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to the member as well as the department concerned. The Parliament unit of the department concerned and the concerned section will, on the basis of this statement, make a suitable entry in their registers.
Obligation to lay a paper on the Table of the House *vis-a-vis* assurance on the same subject.	**8.9** Where there is an obligation to lay any paper (rule/order/ notification, etc.) on the Table of the House and for which an assurance has also been given, it will be laid on the Table, in the first instance, in fulfilment of the obligation, independent of the assurance given. After this is done, a report in formal implementation of the assurance indicating the date on which the paper was laid on the Table will be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in the prescribed proforma (*Annexure* 6) in the manner already described in papa 8.7.2.

Committees on Government Assurances LSR 323, 324 RSR 211-A.	**8.10** Each House of Parliament has a Committee on Government assurances nominated by the Speaker/Chairman. It scrutinized the implementation reports and the time taken in the scrutinized of Government assurances of focuses attention on the delays and other significant aspects, if any, pertaining to them. Instructions issued by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from time to time are to be followed strictly.
Reports of the Committees on Government Assurances.	**8.11** The department will, in consultation with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, scrutinize the reports of these two committees for remedial action wherever called for.
Effect on Assurances on dissolution of the Lok Sabha.	**8.12** On dissolution of the Lok Sabha, all assurances, promises or undertakings pendings implementation are scrutinized by the new Committee on Government assurances for selection of such of them as are of considerable public importance. The Committee then submits a report to the Lok Sabha with a specific recommendation regarding the assurances to be dropped or retained for implementation by the Government.

ANNEXURE I

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2015-16)

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

(FOURTH SITTING)

(19.11.2015)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1610 hours in Committee Room "E", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Tariq Anwar
3. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
4. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
5. Shri C.R. Patil
6. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
7. Shri Taslimuddin
8. Shri S.R. Vijay Kumar

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri S.C. Chaudhary — *Director*
3. Shri T.S. Rangarajan — *Additional Director*
4. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

WITNESSES

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

1. Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary
2. Shri Tarun Kapoor, Joint Secretary
3. Shri J.C. Sharma, Eco. Adv.
4. Dr. A.K. Tripathi, Director
5. Shri M.R. Nouni, Director
6. Shri Girish Kumar, Director
7. Dr. Pankaj Saxena, Director

8. Shri S.K. Jagwani, Director
9. Shri B.K. Bhatt, Director
10. Shri J.K. Jethani, Scientist 'D'
11. Dr. Vasantha Thakur, Scientist 'C'
12. Shri S.R. Meena, Scientist 'C'
13. Shri A.K. Singh, US (Parl.)

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

1. Shri A. Manoharan, Deputy Secretary
2. Shri A.B. Acharya, Under Secretary

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda.

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3. The Committee then invited representatives of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy regarding pending assurances from 8th Session of 15th Lok Sabha to 4th Session of 16th Lok Sabha and reviewed 16 assurances (Annexure-III). The Chairperson while initiating the evidence proceedings emphasized on the need to follow guidelines contained in the Manual of Practice & Procedure in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and to maintain an efficient coordination mechanism with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in dealing with Assurances. The Committee reviewed all the 16 Assurances of Ministry of New Renewable Energy as mentioned below:—

(i) *USQ No. 2165 dated 12.08.2011 regarding Wind Energy project in Kerala (Sl. No. 1)*

The Ministry informed the Committee that a feasibility study was conducted and it was concluded that NTPL Wind Project in Idukki district is not feasible and communication to this effect has already been forwarded. The Ministry further stated that the Implementation Report in the matter has been sent for laying on Table of the House. While observing that the Assurance is fulfilled, the Committee expressed concern at the delay of four years in furnishing the Implementation Report and desired that the Ministry should speed up their functioning.

(ii) *USQ No 2921 dated 30.03.2012 regarding Offshore Wind Power (Sl. No. 2)*

The Ministry stated that the Assurance was regarding constitution of technical committee to identify offshore wind areas. On the advice of the technical committee, the National Institute of Wind Energy along with Scottish Development International analyzed the data and identified offshore wind areas having potential in the State of Tamil Nadu. The Implementation report was submitted on 13.10.2015. The Committee expressed that the Assurance is fulfilled.

(iii) *USQ No. 3867 dated 27.04.2012 regarding Geo-Thermal Energy (Sl. No. 3).*

The Ministry apprised the Committee that the Assurance was given in regard to formulation of draft policy and action plan for utilization of geo-thermal energy in the country. The draft policy was formulated and being finalized by the government. The Committee expressed the desire to expedite the matter with the suggestions from the States.

(iv) *USQ No. 434 dated 23.11.2012 regarding Development of Bio-Fuels (Sl. No. 4).*

USQ No 2414 dated 07.12.2012 regarding National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee (Sl. No. 5).

USQ No 3052 dated 15.3.2013 regarding National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee (Sl. No. 6).

The Ministry apprised the Committee that the Assurances pertaining to USQ No. 434, 2414 and 3052 dated 23.11.2012, 07.12.2012 and 15.03.2013 respectively are of similar nature. The admitted that they had committed certain mistakes while furnishing their earlier reply and stated that subsequently a detailed Implementation Report in the matter had been submitted. The Committee expressed that since a committee had been formed and it was working with due process, the Assurances were fulfilled.

(v) *USQ No. 4261 dated 22.03.2013 regarding Bio-Energy Mission (Sl. No. 7).*

The Committee were apprised that the Government did not propose to launch National Bio-energy Mission. However, some studies had been done in this area and extension of time upto 20.02.2016 had been sought for fulfilling the Assurance. The Committee desired that the Assurance may be fulfilled within two to three months.

(vi) *USQ No. 2698 dated 07.02.2014 regarding Solar Thermal Power (Sl. No. 8).*

The Ministry apprised the Committee that an enquiry was conducted in the matter and no irregularity had been found. The Committee expressed that an Implementation Report should be laid in the House and that would treat the Assurance as fulfilled.

(vii) *USQ No. 763 dated 27.11.2014 regarding National Wind Energy Mission (Sl. No. 09).*

The Ministry informed the Committee that the Assurance was regarding launch of the National Wind Energy Mission including its goals and timeframe. The Government was yet to decide to set up the Mission, and extension of time had been sought upto 31 December, 2015. The Committee desired that a comprehensive study may be done to determine the potential of each State *w.r.t.* the National Wind Energy Mission.

(viii) *USQ No. 2005 dated 04.12.2014 regarding Promotion of Rooftop Solar System (Sl. No. 10).*

The Ministry apprised the Committee that the Assurance was regarding seeking the approval of the sovereign guarantee from the Ministry of Finance for raising loan of one billion Euro from KfW Development Bank. The response from the Ministry of Finance was awaited. Therefore, it was treated as an Assurance and extension had been sought for three months to fulfill the Assurance. The Committee desired that the matter may be apprised to the Standing Committee on Energy of Parliament and if required, the Committee on Government Assurances may also be approached.

(ix) *USQ No. 3202 dated 11.12.2014 regarding Production of Bio Diesel (Sl. No. 11).*

The Ministry informed the Committee that the Implementation Report in the matter had already been submitted on 19.11.2015 and hence the Assurance might be treated as fulfilled. The Ministry clarified that import of Bio-fuels would only be permitted only to the extent necessary and would be decided by the National Bio-fuel Coordination Committee proposed under the National Policy on Bio-fuels. Duties and taxes would be levied on the imports so as to ensure that indigenously produced Bio-fuels were not costlier than the imported bio-fuels. Import of free fatty acids/oils would not be permitted for production of Bio-fuels. Export of Bio-fuels would only be permitted after meeting the domestic requirements and would be decided by the National Bio-fuel Coordination Committee. The Committee directed the Ministry to furnish details of the benefits of the production of Bio-fuels particularly to the farmers.

(x) *USQ No. 482 dated 26.02.2015 regarding Offshore Wind Energy (Sl. No. 12).*

The Ministry apprised the Committee that Implementation Report in the matter has been submitted.

(xi) *USQ No. 1631 dated 05.03.2015 regarding Renewable Energy Projects (Sl. No. 13).*

The Ministry informed the Committee that the present position regarding fulfillment of the Assurance was that the representations from the Solar Thermal Power Developers for extension of the commissioning dates were still under examination in the Ministry. Hence, final decision on the same might take some more time. The Committee observed that the Assurance would be fulfilled only after completion of the project.

(xii) *USQ No. 1762 dated 05.03.2015 regarding Solar Power Storage Technology (Sl. No. 14).*

The Ministry in their status report furnished to the Committee, sought extension of time for fulfilling the Assurance.

(xiii) *USQ No. 1778 dated 05.03.2015 regarding Solar Power Project (Sl. No. 15).*

The Ministry informed the Committee that the Assurance pertained to formulation of scheme to set up Solar Photovoltaic Project through unemployed educated youths and an extension of time upto 31.12.2015 had been sought in the matter.

(xiv) *USQ No. 3759 dated 19.03.2015 regarding Hydrogen Fuel Cells (Sl. No. 16).*

The Ministry informed the Committee that the Assurance was regarding Hydrogen Fuel Cells and for developing a proposal of Centre for Excellence for Hydrogen Energy and Fuel Cells by IOC R&D Centre in the Campus of NISE. Since, the proposal was yet to be finalized, an extension has been sought in the matter till 31.12.2015. The Committee desired that a separate study in the matter may be done for the Himalayan region.

A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

ANNEXURE I

STATEMENT OF PENDING ASSURANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY (FROM 8TH SESSION OF 15TH LOK SABHA TO 4TH SESSION OF 16TH LOK SABHA)

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1.	USQ No. 2165 dated 12.08.2011	Wind Energy project in Kerala
2.	USQ No. 2921 dated 30.03.2012	Offshore Wind Power
3.	USQ No. 3865 dated 27.04.2012	Geo-Thermal Energy
4.	USQ No. 434 dated 23.11.2012	Development of Bio-Fuels
5.	USQ No. 2414 dated 07.12.2012	National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee
6.	USQ No. 3052 dated 15.03.2013	National Bio-Fuel Coordination Committee
7.	USQ No. 4261 dated 22.03.2013	Bio-Energy Mission
8.	USQ No. 2698 dated 07.02.2014	Solar Thermal Power
9.	USQ No. 763 dated 27.11.2014	National Wind Energy Mission
10.	USQ No. 2005 dated 04.12.2014	Promotion of Rooftop Solar System
11.	USQ No. 3202 dated 11.12.2014	Production of Bio Diesel
12.	USQ No. 482 dated 26.02.2015	Offshore Wind Energy
13.	USQ No. 1631 dated 05.03.2015	Renewable Energy Projects
14.	USQ No. 1762 dated 05.03.2015	Solar Power Storage Technology
15.	USQ No. 1778 dated 05.03.2015	Solar Power Project
16.	USQ No. 3759 dated 19.03.2015	Hydrogen Fuel Cells

ANNEXURE II

MINUTES

THIRD SITTING

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2016-2017) HELD ON 14 DECEMBER, 2016 IN CHAIRPERSON CHAMBER'S ROOM NO. 133, PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI.

The Committee sat from 1015 hours to 1050 hours on Wednesday, 14 December, 2016.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Prof. Sugata Bose
4. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
5. Shri C.R. Patil
6. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.S. Kambo	—	*Additional Secretary*
2. Shri S.L. Singh	—	*Deputy Secretary*

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following seven (07) draft Reports without any amendment:

(i) Draft 41st Report regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

(ii) Draft 42nd Report regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

(iii) Draft 43rd Report regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare).

(iv) Draft 44th Report regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence).

(v) Draft 45th Report regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (acceded to).

(vi) Draft 46th Report regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (not acceded to).

(vii) Draft 47th Report regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department).

2. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports during the current session of the Lok Sabha.

The Committee then adjourned.

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